

Udhma on the authority of Qataada.’ Regardless of whether or not this hadith is authentic, the verse above is clear that the jinn have intercourse and that satisfies us as proof.

Some people allege that the jinn do not eat, drink or have sex, but that claim is false as we have shown in our clear proofs from the Quran and the sunnah.

Some scholars are of the opinion that there are different types of jinn and some of them do eat or drink while others do not. Wahb ibn Munabih said, “The jinn are of different kinds. One is a pure jinn, and that is like a wind that does not eat or drink, nor does it die or procreate. And there is a class of them that does eat, drink, procreate and has sex and dies. And those are those female demons and desert demons and similar others.” This was recorded by ibn Jarir at Tabari.²

But what Wahb said is itself in need of evidence and cannot be considered a proof on its own.

Many scholars have delved into the nature of their eating: is it similar to that of the humans, do they swallow or is it by sniffing and so forth. It is a mistake and not allowed to delve into such matters and we are not required to know about such things. Neither Allah or His Messenger (peace be upon him) have informed us of such matters.

¹ In the way that the report is being referred to, it seems that it is from the *mursal* reports of Qataada. Such reports are considered weak, unless they are supported through other sources. Unfortunately, the recently published edition of ibn Abu Haatim’s *tafseer* does not extend all the way to *Surah al-Rabmaan* to be able to check the entire chain.-JZ

² *Lawaami al-Anwaar*, vol. 2, p. 222.